

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 1. A game ball having moisture resistance properties, said game ball comprising a lining and a leather cover disposed over said lining, wherein when said ball is subjected to a cycle of ^athe rain test of ¹²⁰~~45~~ minutes duration, said ball absorbs a ^{maximum}~~limited~~ amount of water as expressed as the ratio of the weight of the ball with absorbed water to the weight of the dry ball, such ratio being ^{a maximum}~~in the range of 1.01:1 to 1.2:1~~.
2. The game ball as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ratio is ^{a maximum}~~in the~~ range of 1.01:1 to 1.15:1. ^{after multiple cycles}
- 10 3. ^{Insert Claim 1 starting from -- A game ball -- Said lining, --} ~~The game ball as claimed in claim 1,~~ wherein when said ball is subjected to six ⁶⁰~~45~~ minute cycles of ^a~~the~~ rain test and said ball is permitted to dry at approximately 70°F for 24 hours between cycles, the ratio is ^{a maximum}~~in the range of 1.01:1 to 1.2:1~~.
- 15 4. The game ball as claimed in claim 3, wherein said ball ~~has a ratio in~~ ^{is a} ~~the range of 1.01:1 to 1.15:1~~ ^{maximum}.
5. The ball as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lining of said ball is coated with one or more water resistant polymeric materials selected from the group consisting of vinyl, epoxy, polyester and urethane materials.
- 20 6. The ball as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lining of said ball comprises a sheet-like material with water resistant properties.

7. The ball as claimed in claim 6, wherein said lining is formed from one or more plies of water resistant materials selected from the group consisting of vinyl, epoxy, polyester, and urethane materials.

8. An American-style football with moisture resistance properties, said football comprising an inflatable bladder, a lining having water resistance properties disposed over and surrounding said bladder, and a leather cover having water resistance properties disposed over and surrounding said leather cover, said leather cover having water resistance properties imparted during the tanning process of said leather, wherein when said football is subjected to a cycle of the rain test for a period of up to one hundred twenty minutes said ball will absorb 120 g or less water. ^{maximum 100g of}

9. An American-style football as claimed in claim 8, wherein when said football is subjected to six-one hundred twenty minute cycles of the rain test and said ball is permitted to dry between cycles, said football will absorb 120 g or less of water at the conclusion of each cycle of said rain test. ^{an average per cycle water weight + gain a maximum of Six cycle}

10. An American-style football as claimed in claim 8, wherein when said football is subjected to up to six one hundred twenty minute cycles of the rain test and said ball is permitted to dry between cycles, said football will absorb 75 g or less of water at the conclusion of each cycle of said test.

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